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Republcs and Gratitude.

Are republics ungrateful? It has been

so stated thousands of times, and es-  
pecially in countries under royal rule—  
the lands of princes, kings, and poten-  
tates.For our part, we do not think the ac-  
cusation rings true. Republics are not  
ungrateful. More than that, they are  
more grateful. In the end, we think, than  
any other forms of government. True,  
republics sometimes move in a most  
mysterious way their gratitude to show,  
but ultimately those deserving well of  
republican countries generally come into  
their own.The primary error arose, we fancy, from  
the fact that monarchies are so much  
more alert, as a rule, to show their gra-  
titude through the sovereign than are re-  
publics through their more complex  
methods of manifestation. A decoration,  
a title, a kindly word, and the royal  
gratitude is evidenced. It is a quick  
process, and oftentimes hollow, and of short  
life. In republics the decorations that  
count are intangible, invisible, and in-  
definite—necessarily so since they must  
come from the hearts and the hands of  
the people themselves, and not merely  
as the awards of royal favor.

A case in point is that of Maj. l'Enfant.

Apparently, for many, many weary years  
this great republic—the noblest on earth—  
was grossly, even meanly, ungrateful to  
this Revolutionary hero and worthy pub-  
lic servant. His immediate reward for  
incomparably excellent services to the  
country was a miserable, grudging  
pay for the mere physical work he did,  
and no appreciable measure of honor at  
all for the glory of the service he rendered.  
He was permitted to die a practical  
pauper, and dependent on the gener-  
osity of a friend for the actual neces-  
sities of life. He died, and was left to  
rest in an unmarked grave for 100 years.  
On the surface of things, his country was  
most ungrateful.

At heart, however, Maj. l'Enfant was

never beyond the pale of his country's  
love and profound gratitude. A sense of  
it gradually developed as the realization  
of his great dream began to unfold, and  
here, a day or two ago, it found expression  
in full proportion to the righteous re-  
verence his memory entails. It was tardy,  
perhaps, but it was splendid when it did  
come. A hundred years was a long, long  
time to wait. Yes, far too long a time,  
from the human point of view; but who  
shall say, really, that it is not more  
glorious from the very lateness of its  
arrival?Republics are not ungrateful, but im-  
mediate gratitude is not always the re-  
public's award. Washington and Jefferson,  
Lincoln and Lee, and Grover Cleve-  
land, grow ever more heroic as the years  
go by and time enshrouds them more  
fully in its benign draperies. The Golden  
Fleece, the Garter, the Legion of Honor—  
these outward and visible signs of royal  
gratitude have been bestowed on hun-  
dreds and hundreds of men whose bones  
are dust, whose good swords rust, and  
whose souls are with the saints, we trust,  
but whose names and fame are forgotten  
forevermore, nevertheless. Not so with  
those whose decorations and evidences of  
gratitude spring honestly, justly, and  
magnificently from a people's love—even  
though that love develop beyond their  
graves.

A correspondent writes to inquire:

"What does John W. Gates mean when he  
says: 'A maximum and minimum  
tariff is a joke?'" He means that  
"maximum and minimum" stands for  
"big I and little you."

Colorado's Legislative Experiment.

Gov. Shafroth, of Colorado, has signed

a bill for the payment of campaign ex-  
penses to the extent of 25 cents for each  
vote cast at a gubernatorial election, the  
total sum to be divided pro rata among the  
political parties. As the total vote of the  
State for governor in 1908 was 247,733, the  
appropriation for the campaign expenses  
of the next election will amount to  
nearly \$62,000, of which the Democratic  
party will get something over \$22,000, and  
the Republican party something less  
than \$39,000. These sums will suffice  
for the whole expenditure of either party  
in a State so well provided with mil-  
lionsaire politicians as is Colorado, but  
it may be that the law itself contemplates  
a limitation of campaign expenses to the  
official appropriation.

One of the many tentative suggestions

thrown out by Mr. Roosevelt while Pres-  
ident was that of governmental provision  
for campaign expenditures as a means of  
preventing electoral corruption. The  
problem of financing campaigns is a se-  
rious one, and the practice of calling  
upon rich men to provide the funds is  
apt to be degrading. It has often been  
urged that governments should pro-  
vide for certain specified campaign ex-  
penditures, as the publication and distri-  
bution of literature, and the employment  
of spellbinders—the so-called legitimate  
expenses of placing the issues before the  
voters. So far as we know, Colorado is  
the first State to adopt legislation along  
these lines, though there are tendencies inthe same general direction that are note-  
worthy, such as Oregon's provision for  
the publication of brief statements of the  
issues or the records of candidates.Originally, nearly the entire expense of  
holding elections, as well as of cam-  
paigns, fell upon private purses. In some  
of the States this is still true of primary  
elections. But with the adoption of the  
Australian ballot, the expense of printing  
and distributing election tickets was  
taken over by public authority, and, gen-  
erally speaking, the cost of elections is  
now borne by the various govern-  
ments. This leaves only the expense of  
electrotyping to be met from private  
means. Legislation has endeavored to  
put a limit on this expenditure, as well  
as to prohibit the collection of cam-  
paign funds from corporate or other cor-  
rupting sources. It is not a difficult task  
from the advanced electoral legislation  
of some of the States to the Colorado law  
allowing a definite sum for campaign  
expenses. Such a law, to be effective,  
should go hand in hand with a string-  
ent corrupt practices act, or it should  
limit the campaign expenditure to the  
amount of the appropriation. Still, it  
would hardly be wise to dry up the  
springs of private contribution, for that  
course would stomp the formation of new  
parties, or the conduct of political propa-  
gandas separate from the old parties,  
both of which might require the legiti-  
mate expenditure of considerable sums of  
money.

Precious good care is being taken, we

fancy, that the tariff is not surprised by  
its friends.

Virginia Horses for the Army.

The establishment of an army remount

depot at Fort Reno, in Oklahoma, has  
resulted in so much success in furnish-  
ing horses for the military service that  
the Quartermaster General of the army  
has decided to open another depot—in  
Montana, in the center of a section where  
are obtainable some of the best horses  
in the country. Gen. Aleshire finds  
that not only is it possible by this method  
to secure a better class of animals for  
the cavalry arm, but the improved  
quality costs less per horse than by the  
old system, where the horses were  
acquired under contract. For many years  
it has been apparent to cavalry officers  
that there was need of a better system  
of getting horses for mounted troops.  
The acceptance of lowest bids does not  
always result satisfactorily, and it was  
found that, even with the most careful  
supervision, it was not possible to buy  
horses in different parts of the country  
under boards of inspection and preserve  
anything like uniformity in equine char-  
acteristics. The difficulties in the way of  
adopting any of the European remount  
systems has been the expense, which  
Congress has hitherto refused to author-  
ize. When Gen. Aleshire became Quar-  
termaster General of the army, possessing,  
as he did from his experience as a cav-  
alry officer, a proper appreciation of the  
need in that direction, he applied him-  
self to the task of improving the system  
of acquiring army animals in a way  
which would not be costly and justify  
its extension without involving the gov-  
ernment in any loss. The proceeding has  
met with great success, and it remains  
to perfect the method by establishing  
additional remount depots, perhaps ulti-  
mately one in the East.

The latter action evidently depends

upon the ability of the Quartermaster  
General to obtain, at reasonable cost,  
suitable horses in, among other places,  
Virginia. Arrangements have now been  
made to ascertain to what extent the  
Virginia horse market will yield animals  
available for military use without paying  
the high prices which are exacted for  
some of the Virginia stock. For this  
purpose a cavalry officer, Capt. Caspar  
H. Conrad, Jr., now on duty at Fort  
Clark, Tex., has been ordered to Wash-  
ington to fully investigate the sources  
of horse supply in Virginia. Upon the  
results of his inquiry will depend the  
action of the War Department in going  
into that market, and possibly, if the  
situation there and in neighboring States  
justifies it, establishing an army remount  
depot in this vicinity.

Chicago has abolished the office of city

archivist. It was discovered that his of-  
ficial duties were so heavy he was unable  
to take more than 264 holidays per year.

Again the Threat of a Tariff Veto.

The New York Tribune, a Republican

organ which, to its credit, insists that  
the tariff plank of its party's platform  
means something more than a mere re-  
hashing of the Dingley law, has been at  
some pains to ascertain President Taft's  
attitude with respect to the present course  
of events in the Senate. It brings the  
reassuring news that Mr. Taft is greatly  
disturbed over the impending failure to  
revise the tariff downward, and that he  
does not regard the schedules so far pre-  
pared as at all conforming with his con-  
ception of genuine tariff revision. The  
President, according to the Tribune, has  
not deviated from his original position,  
which may be restated thus:

"The President believes that the Republican

party stands pledged to a genuine tariff revision;  
that a genuine tariff revision consists of a re-  
vision downward, and, possibly, in a very few  
instances where gross inequalities have prevailed,  
and, finally, that, having been elected on a  
platform pledging the party to discontinue a  
tariff bill which is not a fulfillment of the party  
promise."

In other words, tariff revision is mainly

revision downward, and if the tariff bill  
does not suit Mr. Taft he will veto it.  
Now, the threat of a veto was made prior  
to the inauguration of the new President,  
and it has been heard since then with  
varying emphasis. It is, in fact, the  
keynote of the President's attitude to-  
ward Congress. He purposes to narrow  
the exercise of Executive influence in  
legislation to the use of the veto power,  
or a threat of its use. Should the tariff  
bill come short of campaign promises  
as construed by Mr. Taft, he would sim-  
ply veto it, and thereby relieve himself of  
all responsibility for his party's failure to  
redeem its pledges to the people.

One difficulty with this attitude is that

the President's threat to veto appears  
not to be taken seriously at the Cap-  
itol. It would seem the height of fa-  
tality and absurdity for Senator Aldrich  
to frame a bill that would certainly  
meet with rebuff at the White House,  
thereby overturning the whole labor ofthe extra session and opening a breach  
between the President and Congress, if  
not in the party; yet that is just what  
Mr. Aldrich is doing, with the assist-  
ance. It may be incidentally mentioned,  
of those Southern protectionists whose  
conversion has just been publicly wel-  
comed by Mr. Taft himself. The ex-  
planation afforded of this situation is  
that the quality of Mr. Taft's backbone  
has been underestimated at the Cap-  
itol. On this point the Tribune as-  
sures us that "only a keen apprecia-  
tion of the steadfastness and quiet de-  
termination of the Chief Executive will  
avert a situation which may prove as  
embarrassing to the party leaders as it  
must to the business of the country."

Another difficulty is that the pledges

of downward revision to which the Re-  
publican party is supposed to be com-  
mitted are wholly those of the Presi-  
dential candidate of the party. He  
brought forward the issue, and it was  
reluctantly agreed to by party leaders.  
But the platform was neatly framed so  
as not to promise downward revision,  
but actually to hold out a hope that  
protective duties would be increased  
where found necessary to maintain the  
home market against foreign invasion.  
"Where did we ever promise downward  
revision?" asks Senator Aldrich. The  
answer is in the speeches of Mr. Taft,  
wherein he referred to excessive sched-  
ules that tended toward the encourag-  
ement of monopoly and the oppression  
of the consumer. These speeches contain  
the pledges that Congress is called upon  
to redeem. Yet there may be some  
wonderment among the standpatters in  
both Houses as to why, on the theory  
of Executive noninterference with Con-  
gressional action, the national legislators  
should feel called upon to redeem the  
pledges made by a Presidential candi-  
date on the stump.

Senator Aldrich and his friends stand

on the Republican platform; Mr. Taft  
stands on a platform of his own. That  
is the nature of the difference between  
the two ends of the Avenue—a differ-  
ence which Mr. Taft is trying to com-  
pose by threatening. In an undertone,  
to employ the veto power.The Memphis Commercial-Appeal re-  
ports the recent death in that city of aMrs. Alewine, aged 112, and a James  
Drinkwater, aged 13. Was that intended  
for an anti-prohibition argument?Mehmed V is making some fine prom-  
ises. Let us hope he is not talking  
through his teeth.

There may be several counterfeit \$100

bills in circulation, just as report has it,  
but the average man knows very well  
that if he will take care of the real dime  
the counterfeit \$100 bills will take care  
of themselves.

"No woman is perfect," says George

Bernard Shaw, he being the only perfect  
human on earth, and knowing whereof he  
speaks.

The rumor that Col. Roosevelt was "ill

of fatigue" after his first day's hunt  
would be astonishing were we not per-  
fectly sure it was started by some arro-  
gant, unmitigated, reprehensible, unspeak-  
able, polioelectric Ananias.

"John Sharp Williams has been defeated

in a spelling bee," says the Cleveland  
Plain Dealer. Mr. Williams knows how  
to keep slogs with the common people.

If the breach between Admiral Evans

and Capt. Hobson is widened much fur-  
ther, they will more than likely bump into  
each other.

We have no doubt that all would yet

be well with Abdul Hamid, however, had  
he been able to take all the advice he got  
from his extensive aggregation of wives.

The Augusta Chronicle says it has

published no editorial on the Turkish  
situation because nobody about the place  
knows anything about the real truth of it.  
If all the papers followed this lead,  
however, what should we do for Turkish  
editorials?An Illinois constable, wearied of pour-  
ing forth the vials of his wrath on auto-  
mobile scorchers, now turns the hose on  
himself with great success. More power to  
his arm, and the bigger hose he can find.

"If women were granted the right to

vote, all gowns would button up the front  
or the side," says a suffragette. Here is  
an ingenious reformer who almost per-  
suadeth us.

Reshad may suit Turkey. Roe-shad

for ours, however.

The combined racket created by the

firing of that Norfolk gun for the past  
100 years would be a mere purr beside  
the amalgamated roar that town has set  
up since its discontinuance. Better give  
in, Admiral Tausig; the worst is yet to  
come.

"By using his cow to mow the White

House lawn, President Taft manages to  
find time between other chores for a  
little game of golf now and then," says  
the Springfield Union. Yes, indeed; and  
in spite of the fact, also, that the cow  
has never been on the White House lawn.

A dramatic critic says: "The Eastest

Way is a better play than 'Hamlet.'"  
That is not exactly the same thing as  
saying "Hamlet" is a worse play than  
"The Eastest Way," however; at least,  
we are constrained to give the critic the  
benefit of the doubt.

"A Chicago doctor says the cure for

old age—whatever that is—is 'peanut  
oil,' according to the Milwaukee Sen-  
tinel. We hope this is not the reason  
Virginia wants to put peanuts on the list  
of protected products.

This story that prohibition has greatly

increased illicit distilling down South is  
all "moonshine," maybe.

"The elevator to success is generally

stuck. Try the stairs," says System. And  
even though they are generally steep and  
slippery, too.

There is said to be very little betting

on baseball in Washington. Washing-  
tonians are too patriotic to bet against  
the home team, and they are not given  
to walking up to people and handing over  
their spare change just for the fun of  
the thing.

Commenting on the Western Christian

Advocate's statement that the new hats  
for women are "hideous, obstructive,  
impudent, loud, and dominant," the Cleve-  
land Leader adds: "Outside of that,  
they're all right." Inside of that, we  
should say.

## A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE HALL-ROOM BARD.

I do not hope to write  
As well as Keats;  
I am contented quite  
To earn the cats.I'm no great poet man,  
Like Scott or Gray;  
I'm happy when I can  
My room rent pay.I write a triolet  
Or other bosh,  
And earn enough to get  
My weekly wash.I wield no trenchant pen;  
Yet all is well;  
I live, and now and then  
A poem sell.

The Main Thing.

"Why do you always eat a square meal  
before dining out?""So that I can give my entire attention  
to the management of the various knives  
and forks."

Selling a Hat.

The new man in the hat department had  
formerly been in the real estate business."What is the price of this hat?" in-  
quired the lady."This desirable spring hat," replied the  
salesman, "has a thirty-foot front. It is  
improved with four ostrich plumes, a peck  
of assorted fruit, a bale of ribbon, and  
seven buckles. There is a builder's trust  
and a second trust, both of which may be  
renewed at reasonable rates. You can't  
beat this value for twice the money."

Showing Samples.

As bleak as fall, as hot as summer;  
Rain between whiles.  
April is like a weather drummer  
Displaying styles.

Home Discipline.

"I have nine daughters."

"Must take 'em a long time to dress  
when the family goes anywhere?""Not so long. They form in a circle and  
each buttons another's gown."

Safe Bet.

"I think they'll marry. She is his first  
love."

"That doesn't mean anything."

"Well, he is her last chance."

The Difference.

"Once a man killed six other men and  
married the girl they all wanted."

"Horribly disgusting!"

"But this happened 300 years ago."

"Ah, an historical romance. How en-  
chanting!"

SEEING THE PRESIDENT.

Demands Upon His Time Arduous  
and Unremitting.

Robert L. O'Brien, in the Boston Transcript.

Mr. Taft takes no luncheon. The inter-  
ruption which it has afforded to his  
predecessors in office in the weary task  
of seeing people, hour in and hour out, is  
not for him. From 9 o'clock in the morn-  
ing until 3 to 5 in the afternoon, accord-  
ing to circumstances, he is meeting a  
stream of people, singly or in commit-  
tees, or in delegations, introduced by Sen-  
ators and Cabinet officers, or arriving at  
his portals with letters of commendation,  
or presenting themselves on the basis of  
their personal acquaintance. No one sees  
him except by appointment—barring a few  
members of the choicest inner circle—and  
yet among the callers by appointment  
wait of three hours are not unknown.  
To see him in an hour and a half after the  
time scheduled is doing well, a new  
piece of machinery in the building of the  
crowd has been devised. Capt. Stone,  
the Pullman car conductor, whom Presi-  
dent Roosevelt, taking a fancy to  
brought to the White House, is now en-  
gaged, nominally under the title of chief  
usher, in opening and closing a great  
double door between the Cabinet room  
and the President's real office. Through  
this portal Stone admits in order the per-  
sons groups who have previously been  
admitted to the Cabinet room by the  
man at its entrance, who has a list sup-  
plied each day by the private secretary,  
or, as occasions arise, of persons who are  
to be passed. Making an appointment  
with the President is the duty of Capt.  
Stone, as he opens and closes these doors,  
introducing to the President the persons  
who pass in, wherever necessary, repre-  
sents a stage in the mechanism which  
had not been found necessary by Mr.  
Taft. He stands against the wall in the  
north-east corner of the room, where the  
office telegraph made his headquarters.  
No one responded to it except during  
office hours. The President's wife used to  
send out a mail to transmit a message,  
usually through one of the clerks. She  
has thrice a week. No general appoint-  
ments were made by it except in the  
rarest emergency. Its use was not  
greatly different from that of a fire-alarm  
bell. The White House occupant, either  
of the family or of the clerical staff,  
had acquired no telephone habit and was  
virtually uneducated to its possi-  
bilities. What is the situation to-day?  
The White House "Main No. 1" is  
manned day and night. The exchange  
connects with virtually every room in the  
mansion, in the office building, and in the  
stables; the man at its switchboard par-  
takes of the nature of a private secre-  
tary. Upon him is poured a list of ap-  
pointments and he is busy making them.  
It seems as if the entire town were con-  
nected with the White House, and also  
the larger centers of the country. The  
accident of the White House occupant  
has repeated the experience of the  
railroad. It has geared up the wheels of  
business to a newly accelerated speed,  
with the result that the pressure upon  
the President's time is unremitting.

Political Rocks Ahead.

From the Louisville Public Ledger.

Events will not be as smooth for the  
Republicans in the next national conven-  
tion and the next campaign as they have  
been in the three most recent battles of  
parties. The party still has an obvious  
weakness in the voting strength of the  
nation. Yet there are mutterings which  
party leaders cannot despise. The true  
success of President Taft and Senator  
Aldrich rests upon the hope that the na-  
tional industrial and agricultural vigor of  
the people will inaugurate another era of  
national prosperity and aggressive ad-  
vance. Wanting that chapter of destiny,  
there are possibilities of political cleavage  
on new lines.

Airship Fighting.

From the New York Tribune.

Artillery for attacking airships is now  
coming to be regarded as an essential  
feature of the German army maneuvers.  
In current accounts of preparations for  
its use no mention is made of extra ar-  
maments or the use of the army hospital  
as a source of the army's hospital  
are deemed adequate, though there is a  
chance that only the facilities for a de-  
cent burial will be required when the  
new gun is tried on military aeronautes.

Surplus Defined.

From the New York Press.

A surplus is that part of your income  
that would remain with you except for  
the fact that it never does.

## FACTS ABOUT LUMBER.

Protective Duty in Excess of Cost  
of Production.

From the Detroit News.

The figures published in the News Tri-  
bune Sunday showing the cost of certain  
processes of manufacture in relation to  
dressed lumber and the rates in the tariff  
bill now before the Senate were very  
illuminating. In all but one of the ten  
instances cited the additional tariff for  
planned lumber was shown to be above the  
entire labor cost of dressing the lumber,  
and in some instances the tariff was dou-  
ble the labor cost. For example, the mill  
price for planing a two-by-four and wider  
sizes is \$1 a thousand; the tariff is \$2 a  
thousand; the mill price for planing two  
sides and one edge of lumber is 75 cents;  
the tariff rate is \$1.50. Of course, such  
rates exclude planned lumber from im-  
portation; it is absolutely prohibitive.

These figures on the cost of dressing

lumber were furnished the News with the  
information that in some cases dressed  
lumber could be obtained for even less  
than the published rates, so that in fact  
tariff rates were three times the labor  
cost. If these rates stand, it means that  
Michigan must pay more for its dressed  
lumber, and without any benefit being  
derived from having the work done on  
this side of the border; for Michigan's  
mills will not do the dressing. It stifles  
competition and socks it to consumers of  
lumber. But what do Michigan's Sen-  
ators care for consumers?

MR. TAFT AND REVISION.

His Duty to Intervene in the Tariff  
Situation.

From the New York Globe.

President Taft is not to be accused of  
having assumed an overbearing attitude  
toward Congress. He has been mild and  
gentle in suggestion. He has assumed  
that Congress knew its duty and would  
perform it without being roughly school-  
mastered. It is not to be charged against  
the present Chief Executive as it was  
against his predecessor that he is dis-  
posed to give orders rather than to  
proffer advice.

Yet if half of the reports coming out

of Washington are true the time may  
not be distant when President Taft may  
be called on to intervene. It is not to be  
expected that he will remain inactive if  
it shall appear that plans are afoot to  
violate the pledges which he made in be-  
half of himself and his party before he  
assumed office. Backed up by the coun-  
try, he is irrevocably committed to two  
propositions: First, that there shall be  
a speedy revision of the tariff; and sec-  
ond, that the revision shall be downward.  
If Congress fiddle-faddles, or if it shows  
a disposition merely to re-enact the Dingley  
law, the President will be led, as he  
wishes himself, and as he would not  
have his administration wrecked, to take  
a hand.

The time has not yet arrived for the

President to become busy. It is not yet  
certain that the Senate will be foolish  
enough to restore all the taxes that the  
Payne bill eliminated or reduced. But  
there is more likelihood of this folly re-  
vealing itself than there was a few weeks  
ago, and if it does the President will  
have no option but to stand his ground.  
The responsibility for loss of harmony  
will not be on him. It will be on those  
attempting to whittle into nothingness his  
campaign pledges. He will be driven to  
disclose an inflexible purpose to oppose  
by every means in his power the voiding  
of his promises, and in view of the mod-  
eration he has shown the American peo-  
ple will acquit him of blame.

TRAVEL IN THE OLD DAYS.

Journey of Two Days by Coach Is  
Now Made in Hours.

Edward Everett Hale in Woman's Home Companion.

Let us now tell of the annual journey  
to which my children in a large family  
looked back every year as the great event  
of the year. My father's father and mother  
lived in Westhampton, in Massachusetts,  
the town where he was born. We lived  
in Boston, and the distance between us  
and Westhampton was about 110 miles.  
We children expected to make the  
journey every summer to see Westhampton,  
our grandfather and grandmother,  
our uncles, aunts, and cousins. To com-  
pass this visit an ox-drawn carriage, as we  
then called a barouche, came around  
to the house in Boston at 6 o'clock in  
the morning. Two trunks were fastened  
on it behind, or perhaps one trunk swung  
by straps from the hinder axle. On the  
back seat of this barouche sat my father  
and mother and one of the smaller of  
the children. On an opposite side sat two,  
and on the high driver's seat, with Pul-  
lam, sat one or two more.

At Framingham, where we dined, and

at Worcester, where we slept, we children  
revealed the delights of country tavern